

NOTHING GAINED BY FILIPINOS

In the Conference With General Otis--Wanted Rebel Government to be Recognized

ENVOYS FINALLY CONFESS

That They Came as Representatives of the Insurgent Dictator Himself.

FIERCE FIGHTING GOING ON.

Mac Arthur Assaulting San Tomas, Northwest of Calumpit--Burning the Town

MANILA, May 4, (Noon).--General MacArthur is now assaulting the town of San Tomas, about five miles northwest of Calumpit.

The Americans are fighting for the town and the rebels are burning the town.

MANILA, May 3, 8 p. m.--The Filipino envoys, Major Manuel Arguelles and Lieutenant Jose Bernal, have abandoned the pretense under which they came to General Otis, that they represented General Antonio Luna, and to-day they announced that they came as representatives of Aguinaldo himself. The two emissaries used all their wiles to secure a reply from General Otis to the letter from Senor Mabini, Aguinaldo's prime minister, and minister of foreign affairs in the dictator's cabinet, which they presented to General Otis yesterday, but General Otis refused to make any reply on the ground that to do so would be equivalent to a recognition of the so-called government of the Philippines.

Major Arguelles said that Aguinaldo knew he would be overpowered in time, but that he would be able to continue the fight for months and that he would do so unless he were given what Major Arguelles termed peace with dignity. Mr. Schurman, the president of the United States Philippine commission, expresses the opinion that the interviews accorded by General Otis to the Philippines will have a good moral effect, as tending to convince Aguinaldo's representatives that the American authorities mean to give the Philippines a good government, and not one of the Spanish sort.

Certainly it has had a civilizing influence in inducing them to observe the amenities of war and consent to Americans furnishing food for American prisoners.

The exodus of natives from the insurgent lines continues.

Ready for Decisive Blow.

By filling in the roads where it was required, putting canoes on the rivers, and plowing fields south of Malolos, the American army is in a fine position for the expected decisive blow.

General MacArthur has moved his headquarters to San Vicente across the Rio Grande. General Wheaton's brigade has advanced beyond Apalit.

General Hale has returned to co-operate with General Lawton.

At Hallbog last evening there was a running fight in the course of which one American soldier was killed and three were wounded. The rebels scattered before General Lawton and General Hale.

On Saturday while Captain Wheeler with a detachment of the Fourth cavalry, was covering General Hale's advance, he discovered a large body of rebels at Pullian. The cavalry opened fire, but there was no response. Thinking that the rebels wanted to surrender, Lieutenant Bell went forward to parley with them. The Filipinos replied that they did not wish to surrender, but that they had been ordered to refrain from fighting during the negotiations. They asked what Lieutenant Bell wanted, and in reply were given half an hour in which to retire, which they improved.

A Spanish prisoner who escaped into the American lines reports that after General Hale's advance on Quinlan 200 Filipinos were buried, thirty-five in one trench and twenty-seven in another. This is the largest number of rebels that have been killed in any one engagement for several months.

Resultless Conference.

There was a conference lasting two hours to-day between Major General E. Otis and the envoys who came here from General Antonio Luna bearing a proposal for a cessation of hostilities. General Otis adhered to his refusal to recognize the so-called government of the insurgents.

The Filipinos now ask for a truce of three months to enable Aguinaldo to summon the congress and consult with the insurgent leaders on others of the kind. The envoys admitted the contention of General Otis that Aguinaldo has little control over affairs outside of the island of Luzon.

The question of the release of Spanish prisoners in the hands of the Filipinos being mentioned, Major Manuel Arguelles, the chief member of the delegation, said that he considered them as being in the same category with the Americans, the United States being the aggressor of Spain in dominion over the island, and acquiring by treaty all Spanish rights and obligations. After the close of the conference with General Otis the Filipino envoys had a consultation with the United States Philippine commissioners.

NO NEWS FROM OTIS

Regarding Progress of Negotiations With Filipinos.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 3.--Gen. Otis made no mention in his report to the war department to-day of the progress of the negotiations with the insur-

gents for the cessation of hostilities, but that fact did not abate the confidence of the officials in the ultimate success of the pending negotiations to arrive at an understanding. There is a belief at the war department that the Filipino leaders are thoroughly discouraged and it is suspected that the next step in the peace negotiations will be a wholesale flight on the part of the individual Filipinos. In the insurgent ranks to make terms for themselves without reference to others. Meanwhile there may be some small engagements between the outposts, but nothing like a general battle is expected.

The reported juncture affected between the forces of General Lawton and Hale's forces gives great satisfaction to the officials here. They have been apprehensive over the length of the line of communication between Lawton and Manila, but with a short cut open now to Malolos on the railroad there is no longer any reason to fear that his supplies can be cut off.

EIGHT MEN SAFE

But Seven of the Yorktown's Crew Are Still Missing.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 3.--The following cablegram has been received from Admiral Dewey:

MANILA, May 3, Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

The following are the Yorktown prisoners at insurgent headquarters at San Isidro:

Lieut. Gilmore, Chief Quartermaster William Walton, Sallmaker's Mate Paul Vandolt, Coxswain John Ellisworth, Apprentice Third Class Albert Peterson, Landsman Silvio Brisoletti, Landsman Lyman Paul Edwards and Landsman Fred Anderson. Provisions have been sent to them by Otis. I am continuing inquiries as to the fate of the other seven.

The names of the men unaccounted for with such data relative to their enlistment, nativity and kin, as the records of the navy department show, are as follows:

John Dillon, landsman, enlisted at Mare Island, Cal.; born at Peru, Ind., next of kin, L. B. Edwards, father, Mexico, Ind.

Charles Albert Morrissey, landsman, enlisted at Mare Island; born at Columbia, Neb.; next of kin, Mrs. J. C. Morrissey, Lincoln, Neb.

Ora B. McDonald, ordinary seaman, enlisted at Mare Island; born at Cornell Valley, Cal.; next of kin, P. McDonald, father, Monterey, Cal.

William H. Hynders, coxswain, enlisted at Mare Island; born at Amesbury, Mass.; next of kin, Mrs. M. H. Nyhus, cousin, 629 Connecticut street, San Francisco.

Orison W. Woodbury, seaman; enlisted at Gloucester, Mass.; born Lynn, Mass.; next of kin, J. G. Woodbury, father, 143 Maple street, Lynn.

Denzel George Arthur Venville, apprentice, second class, enlisted at Mare Island; born at Dudley, England; next of kin, E. Marsh, Bellwood, Ore.

E. J. Nyard, gunner's mate, third class, enlisted at New York; born Warsaw, Russia; next of kin, Sophie Nyard, wife, 1621 Atlantic avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

It is said at the navigation bureau that there is every reason to believe that these missing sailors are not dead or at least not all of them. The naval officers here believe that some of the Yorktown's crew succeeded in making their way into the lines of the Spanish garrison at Baler, where they would be well treated. Admiral Dewey is now striving to get into communication with the garrison at Baler.

General Henry's Retirement.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, April 27.--Major General Guy V. Henry has announced in general orders his retirement from active service, from the post of department commander and military governor, and that he will soon be relieved from duty here. General Henry says that during his stay in the island, which began in July last, he had received abundant proofs of the loyalty and intelligence of the Porto Ricans and their desire to be true Americans and to adopt the methods that have resulted in making the United States a great nation.

Soldiers Without Funds.

SAN JUAN DE PORTO RICO, May 3.--Several hundred soldiers who were discharged from the United States army three weeks ago are awaiting transportation home. They are without funds and are becoming much exasperated over the delay. These men are a source of great care to the military and police authorities who fear that unless they are provided with transportation to the United States soon their demoralization will affect the city. Major General Henry has authorized them to sleep and eat at the military barracks. Many of the men are without a cent.

MATAAFA ACCEPTS

An Armistice, but Germans Decline to Sign It.

APIA, Samoan Islands, April 27, via Auckland, N. Z., May 3.--Mataafa, the rebel chieftain, has accepted an armistice. The Germans, however, declined to sign the proclamation.

WASHINGTON, May 3.--Officials at the German embassy say that up to the close of office hours to-day no communication had been received of events in Samoa. Evidently nothing of an important nature was expected for some time, as Ambassador Holleben has left the city for a visit of several days to New York. Full reports of affairs leading up to the armistice are awaited with much interest and the hope is confidently expressed that the Mataafa element has decided to submit and await the decision of the joint commission now on its way there. Germany, it was stated, was anxious that there should be an end to hostilities.

The Big Steel Combine.

NEW YORK, May 3.--The Times to-morrow will say: Further progress toward consolidation of the big steel interests of the country was made yesterday, at a meeting held at Holland House, in which Judge W. H. Moore, of Chicago, H. C. Frick, representing the Carnegie interests, and other prominent steel men of the country, took part. After the meeting there was a rumor that an offer of \$10,000,000 had been made for the Carnegie interests, and that Mr. Frick had taken it under consideration for consultation with Mr. Carnegie.

Potteries Will Bring Suit.

EAST LIVERPOOL, O., May 3.--It is said that several pottery companies whose plants were closed for weeks, pending the futile negotiations to form a trust, will bring suit against John B. Denison, of New York, the promoter of the trust. The Steubenville pottery company, it is said, will take the initiative. The actions will be based on the loss of trade, the cost of inventory and the agreement to pay 5 per cent of the appraised value of the plants when the options were extended.

MURDERER'S CONFESSION.

Singular Tragedy That Happened in a New York Apartment House.

PROMINENT BANK DIRECTOR

Shot Five Times by a man Who Said he was the Instrument of God's Vengeance.

NEW YORK, May 3.--Alexander Masterton, a director of the Farmers Loan & Trust Company, and seventy-two years old, was shot and killed this afternoon by James Neale Plumb, in the Burlington hotel, on West Thirtieth street. Masterton was shot five times and died within an hour or two.

The murder was premeditated as evidenced by a voluminous statement written in advance by Plumb and given out after his arrest.

At present the real motive for the crime is unknown. Plumb, in his statements issued "To the Public," and entitled, "Why I, J. Neale Plumb, shot Alexander Masterton," declared that he had been actuated to do the shooting because of a systematic hounding of him by Masterton. Plumb declared further that Masterton had not only ruined him financially, but had attempted to alienate the affections of his wife and children and to cause his social downfall.

Plumb's statements, one of which was addressed to the Associated Press, deal with a period of his career embracing the past thirty-five years, as rambling in many places and conclude with the following:

An Instrument of Wrath.

"No man has a higher regard for human life than I have. But the just and righteous punishment of Alex. Masterton is decreed by an outraged God, and I am simply the humble instrument in his hand, as he has selected me as his chosen instrument of wrathful vengeance. I have rid the world of a man who was not fit to live, and whose death a thousand times over would never atone for the monstrous wrongs done me."

Masterton and Plumb met by agreement in the Burlington hotel at 1:30 p. m. In the apartments occupied by Mgr. Cole. They had been there but a short time when five shots were fired in rapid succession. Plumb then came out of the apartments and walked into the reception room, awaiting arrest. The murderer was taken before Police Captain Price, of the Tenderloin district, of whom he is an intimate friend. He was later taken before a magistrate in the Jefferson Market Police Court and held. Nothing was brought out at the hearing that could be accepted as a reason for the killing beyond the statement made by Plumb that Masterton had hounded him for many years.

Plumb's Reasons.

In his statement Plumb writes as follows: "The reason for taking this serious step was that upward of thirty-five years, commenced as far back as 1862, at the time of my marriage engagement, this man has followed me like a sleuth hound from that time to this, and yet I was never able to discover the cause or motive of his vindictive animosity toward me as when he commenced to attack me I had never seen the man nor ever heard of him."

"Again in 1865, on my return from California, after three years absence, he at once repeated the intrigues against me in my family and in public, secretly doing me all the injury in his power, socially and financially."

"After all these years, down to 1870, this man was constantly plotting and conspiring against me, endeavoring to undermine my wife's confidence in me by mean and covert insinuations and endeavoring in every way to alienate the affections of my wife and children and he had a powerful influence, being the trustee of my wife's large estate."

In 1877 Mrs. Plumb died in Paris, and Plumb returned here and went to live at Islip, L. I. He recites a number of circumstances showing, alleged conspiracy to alienate the affections of his children, a French maid acting as a spy for Masterton. Plumb refers to another "conspiracy" begun in 1883, which he says is known to his friends in New York and Washington as "the Washington conspiracy," where his eldest daughter, Minnie, laid a trap for Masterton and his lawyers by means of decoy letters and telegrams, and that his enemy fell into the trap and did not know he had been trapped, until his daughter displayed the motive of these telegrams in Surrogate Rollins court, during an action brought in connection with the case.

The Final Blow.

After reciting the story of the marriage of his son, J. Ives Plumb, in 1885, with a woman named Anna Burton, of whom he speaks in no complimentary terms, and laying the blame for this undecidable marriage at Masterton's door, he refers to what he calls the "last great conspiracy of Alexander Masterton, which has culminated his long years of cruel, vindictive oppression by his punishment decreed by an outraged God."

He says that soon after his son's "disgraceful marriage" he went to Europe, intending to make his home in Southampton, England, and he and his daughters were as happy there as they could be with a cloud hanging over them in the moral death of his son. He next refers to the kidnapping of his daughter Leonha, in 1888, after they had returned to New York. She was forced into a carriage by the agents of Masterton, he avers, and taken to the Victoria hotel. Later she was taken to Troy. She subsequently regained her

freedom. The object of this abduction, Plumb claims, was to force the girl to give up her father.

Plumb declares that wrongs that Masterton had done him no law could reach. His words are: "The man who brought all this trouble in my declining years no law can reach."

In addition to these conspiracies, Plumb goes into lengthy details regarding the alleged efforts of Masterton and others to bring about a marriage between one of his daughters and a worthless fortune-seeking Englishman, who had made the boast that he "could win the little American Miss."

Plumb did not, however, add anything to the statement which had been prepared in advance regarding the events that took place just prior to the shooting. He appeared cool immediately on his arrest, but when at the police station word came that Masterton had died, Plumb broke down and said: "It had to be."

An Angry Conversation.

A chambermaid at the Burlington who was the only one near the room in which the shooting occurred, told the police that she heard the men in angry conversation just before she heard the pistol shots. One of the men, she said, and she was positive it was not Masterton, said in a loud, angry tone: "I will not be satisfied with that amount." Two shots were fired in quick succession a moment later and then three more. Plumb came out of the room perfectly collected and said to her:

"There's a man in trouble in there."

He then went down stairs, and then into the reception room, where later he was arrested.

Alexander Masterton was a leading resident of Mt. Vernon, where he occupied a handsome home with his wife and two daughters, Mrs. C. B. Tibbals and Mrs. W. N. Ferris. He was formerly connected with the old Manufacturers' and Merchants' Bank of New York, and later was interested in the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company. He had the management of many estates, and was interested heavily in Westchester real estate. He had held a number of police offices. He was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and was a popular man in Mt. Vernon.

J. Neale Plumb at one time was very wealthy, occupying a fine residence on Fifth avenue, and having a half million dollar villa at Islip, L. I. It is said by those who are intimately acquainted with Plumb that he lost most of his fortune although he had sufficient to retire from business twenty years ago. He is said to have been a very popular and to be a popular, easy-going man.

A number of lawyers interested in the legal proceedings of the Plumb-Masterton case were greatly surprised to learn of the murder. Lawyer David McClure, who represented Masterton in proceedings in which the two men fought it to prevent the spread of the rumor, was greatly surprised to hear of the shooting which, however, he did not wish to discuss. He said, however, that he had always found Plumb pleasant, agreeable and easy to get along with.

J. Henry Thompson, another lawyer interested in the Plumb family litigation, said:

"Had the shooting occurred during the first proceedings I might not have been so much surprised."

Mr. Thompson admitted that Plumb was very bitter over the court proceedings, and believed that he was the victim of a conspiracy.

FIERCE ELECTRICAL STORM

Sweeps Over Monongalia County. Lightning Sets Fire to Oil Tank. Dwellings in Morgantown and the County Struck.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

MORGANTOWN, W. Va., May 3.--Late this afternoon a severe electrical storm passed over this section, doing much damage to property. A tank containing \$50,000 worth of oil, belonging to West Virginia producers at the Standard Oil Company's plant, took fire from a stroke of lightning and is fast being consumed. Great excitement reigns around the company's pumping station.

The burning tank is in the center of a group of twenty-five, all in close proximity to it. One hundred men are fighting it to prevent the spread of the flames, and hundreds of people are on the hills watching the destruction. It is estimated that \$200,000 worth of property is in danger.

A dozen dwellings in the town and county were struck and badly damaged, and a number of horses killed. Great quantities of hay fell during the storm damaging the fruit orchards and wheat fields.

STORM IN PRESTON.

Three Section Hands Struck by Lightning Near Terra Alta--Two Were Instantly Killed.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

TERRA ALTA, W. Va., May 3.--During a severe electrical storm here at noon to-day, Howard Fraley, Henry Lewis and Ray Lewis, aged respectively eighteen, nineteen and twenty-one years, employed as repair hands on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, were struck by lightning. Howard Fraley and Henry Lewis were killed instantly, and Ray Lewis was rendered unconscious, and is feared for a time that death would ensue in his case also.

The accident occurred two and a half miles from here, between McGuire's and Rodener's tunnels, where the men were working. The section foreman, Patrick Murphy, resided a short distance from the point where the men were at work, and when the storm gathered he started for the house, telling his men they had better come with him until the storm had passed. Murphy had reached the house and was standing in his doorway watching the three men come through a field, which lies between the track and the house.

When the shock came Mr. Murphy was also stunned and nearly knocked down. As soon as he had recovered he ran to the assistance of his men and upon discovering life in the body of Ray Lewis he came to Terra Alta for the company's surgeon, Dr. E. M. Scott.

Young Lewis is now much better. The storm was one of the most severe known here for a long time, and was accompanied by heavy rain and hail.

\$5,000 for a Brushed Heart.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

STEUBENVILLE, O., May 3.--The breach of promise case of Miss Ida M. Reed against Prof. J. Houston Lowrey for \$10,000 damages, was tried here to-day. The correspondence of Lowrey was read, but he did not put up any defense. The jury came in late to-night with a verdict of \$5,000. Both parties belong to prominent families, and Lowrey is a prominent educator.

A STRANGE OMISSION.

Arrival of U. S. Minister at Managua, Nicaragua, is Completely Ignored.

ZELAYA'S PECULIAR ACTIONS.

Large Purchases of Munitions of War With No Trouble in Sight.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, April 12.--The official and semi-official newspapers at this capital ignore the arrival here on April 10, of United States Minister William Lawrence Merry. This is notable, as the newspapers are usually prompt in courtesies and in the publication of news of international interest. In some quarters this omission is attributed to the fact that the government of the United States has just sent the warship Detroit to Bluefields to make an investigation and protect citizens and representatives of the United States against the decisions and demands of General Francisco Torres, who is, by authority of President Zelaya, exercising the dictatorship at Bluefields and in the eastern part of Nicaragua. Some three or four years ago President Zelaya promised the government of the United States not to employ Torres again on the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua, because he was charged with permitting and aiding in the escape from Nicaragua of a prisoner in his charge, a colonel in Zelaya's army, who was accused of murdering a citizen of the United States at Rama, Nicaragua.

War Purchases.

President Zelaya has secretly purchased from Max Eigenschildt of Liege, Belgium, two batteries of six cannons each, the weapons being Hotchkiss rapid fire guns and a large quantity of ammunition, paying about \$18,000 in gold for each battery.

He has also ordered, through a German commission house, a large number of telephone and several telegraph instruments, a quantity of copper wire and telegraph supplies. He already has about \$20,000 worth of rifles (Remington, Mauser, etc.), and about fifty pieces of field artillery of various kinds, and a large supply of munitions of war. The occasion for these expenditures is not apparent.

There appears to be no intention of a revolution in Nicaragua against President Zelaya and there appears to be no need of more cannons and war material unless President Zelaya anticipates a war with Costa Rica and wants an extra supply of arms to distribute among disaffected natives of Costa Rica.

President Zelaya is to send his private secretary on a special secret mission to Salvador. The object of this is apparently to make an effort to persuade the government of Salvador to form a secret alliance with Zelaya and the president of Honduras with the object of keeping each of the executives in his present position.

During the last three years the government of Nicaragua has spent much money in efforts to have electric lights instituted at the capital and in other cities of the state, but every effort has resulted in failure.

HEAVY RAINFALL

Pleases Western Farmers--Drought is Broken.

CHICAGO, May 3.--The heaviest rain of the season visited Illinois last night, bringing relief to the winter wheat, which has suffered severely from the drought April in twenty-eight years. The precipitation was over half an inch, with indications of heavy showers to-day. Corn will also be benefited, as the ground had become so dry that planting was being delayed.

OMAHA, Neb., May 3.--Heavy rains have visited all parts of the state yesterday and the soil is now in excellent condition. The winter wheat and rye was badly damaged by the drought, but will make part of a crop.

WICHITA, Kas., May 3.--A very heavy rain fell during the night throughout this section. Wheat and oats were seedling moistures and farmers are jubilant over the prospects of an increased yield. Oklahoma reports the best wheat prospects ever known.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 3.--A heavy rain was general over Missouri and Kansas last night and it will greatly benefit crops. At Kingman, Kas., the rain amounted to almost a watershed and was accompanied by a strong wind that blew down half a dozen barns, uprooted trees and did other minor damage. A house on the farm of John Wilson was blown down and the tenants badly scared.

HONORS TO HEROES.

Who Fell on the Bloody Battlefield of Chancellorsville, Va.

RICHMOND, Va., May 3.--On the battlefield of Chancellorsville to-day, Gen. Charles H. T. Collis and twenty other members of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Pennsylvania regiment, Collis Zouaves, dedicated a monument to the memory of three officers and thirty-five privates of their regiment who fell in the battle.

The visitors were accompanied to the monument site by a number of citizens of Fredericksburg. General Collis made a patriotic address and James Park Corbin accepted the monument on behalf of the national battlefield association, to whose care it has been entrusted.

The monument is of rustic design, oblong in shape and in Virginia granite. On the die is a brass plate with the names of those of the regiment killed at Chancellorsville, and the following inscription:

"Erected to mark the line of battle of the One Hundred and Fourteenth regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers, on the memorable day of May 2, 1863, when it lost three officers and thirty-five enlisted men killed."

At the conclusion of the dedication the party visited several points on the battlefield, among them the Jackson monument and on the latter they placed a handsome wreath.

A Flow Combine.

CHICAGO, May 3.--Representatives of the twenty-two leading pump manufacturing concerns in the United States are assembling in Chicago to avail the result of their committee's action in New York. If all goes as is planned the American Flow Company with a capital of \$55,000,000 will take its place among the giant combinations of the country.

ITALY'S CABINET RESIGNS.

The Result of an Exciting Debate in the Chamber--Some State Secrets Revealed.

ROME, May 3.--The Italian ministry has resigned. It was constituted June 23, 1898, as follows:

President of the council and minister of the interior, General Luigi Pelloux; minister of foreign affairs, Admiral Felice Napoleone Canavaro; minister of the treasury, Pietro Vacchelli; minister of justice and ecclesiastical affairs, Camillo Finocchiaro Aprile; minister of war, General Alessandro Asinari Di San Marzano; minister of marine, Admiral Giuseppe Palumbo; minister of commerce, industry and agriculture, Alessandro Fortis; minister of public instruction, Professor Gualberto Baccelli; minister of public works, Pietro Lacava; minister of posts and telegraphs, Nunzio Nasi.

The resignation of the ministry is a sequel to a scene in the chamber of deputies yesterday. In the course of a prolonged and animated discussion regarding the government's foreign policy the minister for foreign affairs, Admiral Canavaro, created a lively sensation by producing, in response to the attack upon his policy at San-Mun bay, an official letter signed by Count Benin Longare, under secretary of state for foreign affairs in the cabinet of Marquis di Rudini, an address to the then minister of marine, Signor Brin, requesting him to initiate some action that would secure for Italy a station in China. This letter showed that the leaders of the present opposition initiated the policy which they are now criticizing.

Admiral Canavaro's action in making public a secret document evoked sharp comment from Marquis de Rudini, Signor Crispi and other leading members of the chamber of deputies. Signor Crispi, in the course of his protest, said: "We are giving with light hearts a sorry spectacle to Europe. I ask the chamber to cease this discussion."

As he closed, Signor Crispi was greeted with an extraordinary demonstration, several members rising and exclaiming: "He is our only man."

DREYFUS AFFAIR.

The Net Slowly but Steadily Closing Around the French General Staff.

PARIS, May 3.--Slowly but steadily the net is closing around the French general staff in the Dreyfus revision inquiry. General Mercler, who was minister of war at the time Dreyfus was condemned, on being called upon by M. De Freycinet, the present minister of war, to produce the report regarding the secret dossier which Lieutenant Colonel Du Paty de Clam testified he had sent to Mercler, replied that he had destroyed it, and he called General Goussier as a witness to the truth of the statement.

Unfortunately for Mercler, General Goussier had already testified before the court of cassation that, although Mercler destroyed the original he kept a copy.

Another anti-Dreyfus argument has received its death-blow. General Zurlinden, military governor of Paris, and others, while testifying before the court of cassation, attached great importance to the closing sentences of the bordereau. "I am starting for the manoeuvres," as proving the guilt of Dreyfus and the innocence of Esterhazy, inasmuch as the staff probations were only notified on August 29 that they would not be required to attend manoeuvring. It has now been proved that this notification was actually delivered May 17. Therefore Dreyfus could not have written "I am starting for the manoeuvres" in the following August.

It is rumored that Lieut. Col. Du Paty de Clam himself communicated to the Figaro the depositions made before the court of cassation.

Took the Veil.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., May 3.--At Mallickroft Convent to-day fifteen ladies took the black veil and twelve the white veil, Bishop Hogan, of Scranton, presided, assisted by a large number of priests. The sermon was preached by Rev. S. P. Hartman, S. J., of Buffalo. Those who took the white veil were: Anna Grimes, St. Louis; Agnes Schaefer, Le Mars, Iowa; Mary de la Rue, Baltimore; Annie Bonner, Jersey City; Francis Schuch, Brooklyn; Florence Kuskowski, New York; Martha Duval, Potsville; Regina Keller, Honesdale; Mary Oestinger, Emma Demuth, Elizabeth Thees and Catherine Knedopf, of Scranton.

Furnacemen Strike.

NEW CASTLE, Pa., May 3.--A general strike of furnace workers occurred here last night, causing all the furnaces to be closed down. About 900 men are affected. An increase of wages was granted the furnacemen on Monday, but the advance did not come up to the expectation of the men and they concluded to strike at once. The furnaces involved are the Newburg, Shenandoah, of the National Steel Company; the Atlantic, of the Atlantic Iron and Steel Company and the Rosena, of the Oliver Snyder Company.

Sympathetic Suicide.

ERIE, Pa., May 3.--Edmund Hart, a well-to-do young married man, suicided to-day by shooting himself, as the result of despondency, induced by stomach trouble. The news of Hart's suicide, read from an evening paper by his friend and office mate, Norman Bates, so shocked the latter that he went to his room and blew his brains out. Bates had been, until a few months ago, under treatment in an insane asylum.

No one Ever Believed It.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 3.--The Ledger will to-morrow